



# NEWS RELEASE



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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **RIBBON CUTTING CELEBRATION NEW SOLANO COUNTY INTERCHANGE LINKING BAY AREA, SACRAMENTO, AND NAPA VALLEY OPENING SOON**

**SOLANO COUNTY** – The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), the Solano Transportation Authority (STA), and the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) today hosted a ribbon cutting celebration for the first construction package of the Interstate 80/Interstate 680/State Route 12 Interchange Project (I-80/I-680/SR-12).

This first construction package of the project reduces congestion and improves safety for more than 150,000 motorists who travel through the Interchange daily.

“Everyone traveling I-80 between the Bay Area, Sacramento and the Napa Valley benefits from this project. It’s a huge improvement”, said Caltrans Director Malcolm Dougherty. “This major link originally built back in the 1950s couldn’t keep up with today’s traffic needs. Now it’s ready to handle interstate travel in 2016 and beyond.”

During this first phase of the seven-phase project, a new connector bridge from westbound I-80 to westbound SR-12 was constructed connecting the I-80 corridor in Solano County to the Napa Valley, a new Green Valley Road overcrossing was also built above I-80 about 200 feet east of the old overcrossing.

The new Green Valley Road overcrossing has two travel lanes, and new improvements including two separate turn pocket lanes, a brand new bicycle lane and sidewalks which the old bridge did not have. The new overcrossing also includes a new onramp to westbound I-80/SR-12.

“It’s a winning combination for everyone involved, local residents, interstate travelers, freight movement and even bicyclists on local streets that was accomplished through a joint planning, funding and construction partnership,” said Solano County Supervisor and Metropolitan Transportation Commissioner Jim Spering. “This first phase eases congestion, reduces cut-through traffic on local streets and creates safer transitions between three major state routes making it safer for interstate travelers as well as those who live in Solano County. We are excited to see the connector bridge from westbound I-80 to SR-12 open to traffic on time at the end of August.”

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This first round of improvements cost about \$67 million for construction. The project received \$15 million from Proposition 1B, a 2006 voter-approved transportation bond. To date, more than \$17 billion in Proposition 1B funds have been used statewide for transportation purposes.

The remaining six phases will be constructed and completed as funding becomes available. Improvements in the upcoming phases will include:

- New interchange at Red Top Road and I-680
- New westbound connector ramp from westbound I-80 to southbound I-680
- Realignment of I-680 between I-80 and the Lopes Road exit in Cordelia
- Realignment of the connector ramp from SR-12 to eastbound I-80
- New entrance/exit ramps
- The extension of some local streets leading to I-80 and SR-12

“If you’re traveling to the Bay Area, Sacramento or the Napa Valley, or just trying to get around Fairfield, Cordelia or Suisun Valley, you’ll have better travel options,” said Fairfield Mayor Harry Price. “This project is just the start of many improvements that will improve the quality of life in our city, whether you’re going shopping, commuting to work, or enjoying recreation activities. We are happy to see this segment completed just in time for the school season and we look forward to seeing the rest of the project finished by October.”

The upgrades at the I-80/I-680/SR-12 interchange is part of another phase of ongoing efforts to improve the transportation infrastructure affecting Solano and Napa counties.

In July 2013, a new \$100 million truck inspection complex was opened along eastbound I-80 in Solano County. The state-of-the-art facility fast-tracks inspections for more than two million trucks annually that travel from the Port of Oakland on I-80 through Northern California.

And in 2014, about 6 miles of SR-12 between Solano and Napa counties were widened with the addition of a new concrete median. That project eased traffic backups, and improved safety.

The construction of a new eastbound SR-12 to eastbound I-80 connector with two eastbound transition lanes to I-80 is one of many improvements planned for future packages of the I-80/I-680/SR-12 Interchange Project.

For more information on the I-80/I-680/SR-12 Interchange Project, and the hundreds of other ongoing transportation projects in California, visit <http://www.dot.ca.gov/dist4>

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